

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 01849 230148Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-01
DOE-12 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01
PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /159 W
-----129959 230154Z /73

R 220510Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2904
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 1849

TOKYO ALSO FOR RFO

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS PORG EFIS XP XU PP

SUBJ: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY

REF: A) STATE 290753, B) TOKYO 18829

1. SUMMARY: WHILE TOP LEVELS OF GPNG HAVE NOT YET FOCUSED ON
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RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 18-23 SUVA TALKS RE ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTH
PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY, IT IS CLEAR THAT PNG HAS NOT,
TO DATE, ALTERED POSITION IT TOOK IN SUVA (REFTELS A AND B).
PNG'S LEADING SPOKESMAN ON LOS/FISHERIES AFFAIRS, GEOFFREY DABB,
TOLD CHARGE PNG CONTINUES TO INSIST ON COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION
OVER TUNA AND TO BELIEVE U.S. FISHERIES INTERESTS AND THOSE OF
PNG OPPOSED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DECEMBER 22 DISCUSSION WITH CHARGE, GEOFFREY DABB, DAFT LEGAL ADVISOR AND LEADING AUTHORITY ON LOS AND FISHERIES MATTERS, INDICATED THAT GPNG HAD NOT CHANGED VIEWS EXPRESSED AT NOVEMBER MEETING IN SUVA. DABB SAID PNG REMAINS CONVINCED THAT DISTANT FISHING STATES' (INCLUDING U.S.) INTERESTS ARE BASICALLY INCOMPATIBLE WITH THOSE OF COASTAL STATES (HE MADE SEVERAL REFERENCES TO PRESENCE OF U.S. TUNA INDUSTRY AT SUVA). PNG WOULD STILL PREFER AGENCY TO BE AN EXCLUSIVE INTEREST GROUP AND NOT AN "ARTICLE 53" ORGANIZATION. LIKEWISE, PNG IS ADAMANT ON OBTAINING RECOGNITION OF COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION OVER MIGRATORY SPECIES.

3. DUE TO TRAVELS ABROAD BY BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER OLEWALE, GPNG HAS NOT FOCUSED ON SUVA RESULTS. DABB REITERATED PNG OPPOSITION TO EARLY (READ MARCH) FOLLOW-UP SESSION, SAYING THAT PNG WAS STILL WORKING OUT ITS POLICIES RE ITS YET-TO-BE DECLARED 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE, A PRIORITY MATTER. WITH RESPECT TO THE ZONE HE REFERRED TO PM SOMARE'S RECENT TRIP TO JAPAN AND SAID THE GPNG WANTED TO GET THE JAPANESE FISHING HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO GET PROMPT BENEFIT FROM ITS STOCK.

4. DABB DID ADMIT, HOWEVER, TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE TWO TREATY APPROACH (PARA 4, REFTEL B) BEING WORKED OUT. "IF THE FORUM DOESN'T WANT TO FIGHT THE U.S., WE COULD CONCLUDE
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A SEPARATE SHORT TREATY AFFIRMING COASTAL STATE CONTROL OVER TUNA". QUESTIONED AS TO THE RIGIDITY OF PNG OVER COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION, DABB ATTRIBUTED IT ONLY IN PART TO NATIONALISM. HE SAID USG WOULD NEVER CAVE ON WHAT IT CONSIDERS VITAL INTERESTS, SUCH AS PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS (WHICH GPNG SUPPORTS). PNG'S VITAL INTERESTS ARE ITS NATURAL RESOURCES AND IT IS CONCERNED THAT A REGULATORY PROCEDURE COULD LEAVE A VACUUM WHICH THE COASTAL STATE WOULD NOT WISH OR APPLY SOME UNACCEPTABLE REGULATION. THUS, GPNG BELIEVES ITS VITAL INTERESTS ARE AT STAKE AND IT IS UNWILLING TO CHANGE.
OLSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTM01849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770478-0901
Format: TEL
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771226/aaaaavql.tel
Line Count: 105
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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